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TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 129

Santa Monica Daily Press

V-BALL TEAMS MAKE RANKINGS
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE ON THE RUN ISSUE



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

NEW RULES OF THE ROAD: **Drivers heading west on Ocean Park Boulevard merge from two lanes to one near Clover Park. City Hall removed two lanes on Ocean Park as part of a pilot project to improve safety. The pilot recently became official.**

Ocean Park Blvd. lane change project made permanent

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

OCEAN PARK BLVD If a nine month pilot project to reconfigure a busy city road became permanent, but nobody knew, would traffic be just as bad?

The answer for Sunset Park residents is a resounding yes.

Ocean Park Boulevard, a bustling east-west corridor that runs from the Pacific Ocean to the city's eastern limit, got a makeover in 2008 after injury accidents between 16th and 18th streets near John Adams Middle School drew concern from neighbors.

Previous efforts had made little impact on the problem. Crossing guards and marked crosswalks, several rounds of flashing crosswalks and additional signs telling drivers their speed failed to cut back on the dangerous behavior.

So, city staff decided to try something a little more drastic.

The two lanes of the formerly four-lane road were taken out as part of a "road diet." In their stead, left-hand turn pockets were added to provide cover and planners painted in bicycle lanes to facilitate bike traffic. On-street parking was also added in some areas.

"This recommendation to reconfigure and to have a road diet seemed like a promising answer," said Transportation Manager Lucy Dyke. "Some were supportive of the idea, and some were really skeptical. The decision taken at the time was to try it and see."

The result was a narrowed roadway meant to force drivers to slow down as they passed through the two block section.

For two years, city staff collected data about the change, examining accident rates, the speed with which public buses made it through the stretch and collecting residents' input as well as that of the Santa Monica Police Department's Traffic Services unit.

Data showed that not only had accidents dropped from 35 to 12 compared to a similar nine-month span in the previous year, that rate held steady for the second year. Injury accidents were reduced by 60 percent, and the only pedestrian-related accidents occurred at signalized intersections outside of the project area.

The new configuration also cut down dramatically on speeding, with 85 percent of motorists traveling at or below 27 mph rather than the posted 35 mph, or 25 mph while school is in session.

The reconfiguration accomplished its goals, Dyke said.

"We went through a couple of rounds of asking what people thought, and then

SEE OCEAN PARK PAGE 10

FBI: Suspect in synagogue blast fled for East Coast aboard a bus

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY A homeless man suspected of constructing a never-before-seen launcher that fired a projectile into the roof of a home adjacent to the Chabad House synagogue in Santa Monica is said to have boarded a Greyhound bus headed for New York, authorities said Monday.

SMPD Sgt. Jay Trisler said the suspect, Ron Hirsch, 60, who also goes by the name of J. Fisher, purchased a bus ticket for the East Coast on the day the home-made bomb exploded, sending a 300-pound metal pipe encased in concrete crashing through the roof of a home where a young child was sleeping.



Photo courtesy SMPD
HIRSCH

Investigators said Hirsch got off the bus

SEE BLAST PAGE 8

Bankrupt Concord High files suit against former director

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN The former director of a small private school here that was forced to file for bankruptcy in November used school funds to pay personal expenses and put her husband and son on the payroll even though it was unclear what services they provided, according to a lawsuit filed last week.

Susan Packer-Davis-Hille, her husband Eric Hille, and her son, Alexander Davis, were named in the suit, filed Friday in U.S. Bankruptcy Court by Concord International

SEE CONCORD PAGE 11

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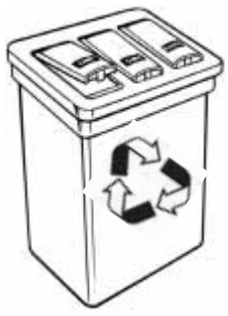
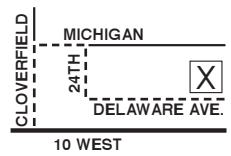


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

'The Merchant of Venice' conversation
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Academy Award winner, F. Murray Abraham attacks the role of Shylock in this riveting update of the bard's darkest of comedies, where religion, race and sexuality collide with love, family and justice. The currency of society and humanity has never been so changeable in this Royal Shakespeare Company commissioned production, the first production by an American company to be invited to the RSC's Complete Works Festival. Join panelists as they discuss the bard, the play, and its surprising relevance in today's society. Seating is limited. Reservations required. For information, call (310) 434-3200.

'Garbage Dreams' screening
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m.
"Garbage Dreams" follows three Egyptian teenage boys born into the trash trade and growing up in the world's largest garbage village on the outskirts of Cairo. Faced with the globalization of the trash trade, each of the boys is forced to make choices that will impact his future and his community. For more information about this free event, call (310) 458-8681.

Healthy eating
Senior Recreation Center
1450 Ocean Ave., 10:30 a.m.
This class focuses on recipes for healthy, hip Santa Monica adults 50 plus. For more information, call (310) 458-8644.

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

Movies on the Deck
Santa Monica Place
Broadway and Third Street, 7 p.m.
Catch a free screening of "Shrek" during this week's installment of the mall's Movies on the Deck promotion. For more information, visit santamonicaplace.com/events.

Shopping for Surfrider
Bloomingdale's
315 Colorado Ave., 6 p.m.
Bloomingdale's unveils its new surf shop with a little help from actress Hayden Panettiere and surfer Rob Machado. The event benefits the Surfrider Foundation.

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Los Angeles Antiques Show
Barker Hangar
3021 Airport Ave., 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.
Sixty prestigious national and international exhibitors presenting an extraordinary collection of rare and beautiful antique furniture, decoration and fine arts reflecting all periods from ancient to the 20th century. For more information, visit losangelesantiqueshow.com.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

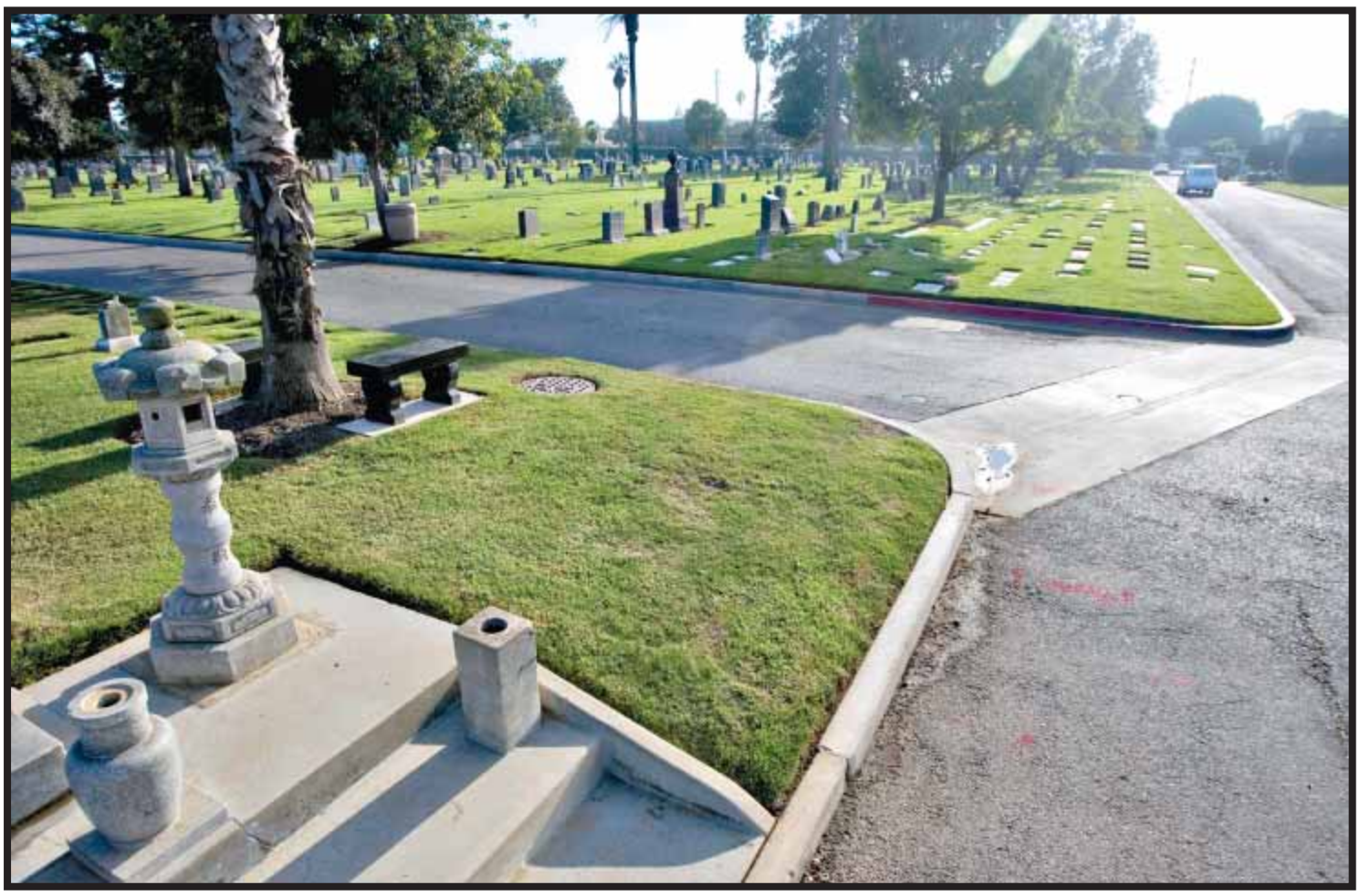
For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



CORRECTION The story "Small business owners unsure on Obamacare," which appeared in the Monday, April 11 edition, should have stated that a survey conducted by the Small Business Majority reported that 79.9 percent of California small businesses are eligible for a tax credit.

Woodlawn Cemetery to get an upgrade



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

A LITTLE EXTRA: **City officials are expected to invest in Woodlawn Cemetery during tonight's City Council meeting.**

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

(Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.)

CITY HALL Even cemeteries are business opportunities these days, and City Hall is preparing to invest heavily to try and get a return out of Woodlawn if the City Council assents at tonight's meeting.

City council members are expected to sign off on $298,323 in improvements to a new sanitary sewer main serving the mausoleum, construction of concrete curbs, gutters and cross gutters and maintenance of all streets within the cemetery's grounds.

The improvements are part of the Cemetery Business Plan, approved by the City Council in April 2009, to help the cemetery support itself.

Staff recommended VCI Telecom, the lowest of 13 bidders at $271,202.40. One company, the Western Group, did submit a lower bid, but it did not meet the project requirements, so staff deemed it "non-

SEE **CONSENT** PAGE 7

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Samohi v-ball retains top spot

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Santa Monica High School's boys' volleyball team has retained its No. 1 ranking in the latest CIF-Southern Section Division 4 poll released on Monday.

The Vikings are currently on spring break and won't return to action until April 26 on the road against Beverly Hills.

ST. MONICA RANKED NO. 9 IN D 5

St. Monica's boys' volleyball team remains No. 9 in the most recent CIF-SS Division 5

SEE **ROUNDUP** PAGE 7

Triscuit sponsors community gardens in L.A.

MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

DETROIT Triscuit crackers and a nonprofit organization that works to establish working farms on unused land are bringing their "home farming" concept to some low-income homes in Los Angeles and Chicago.

The plans for five community gardens — three in Chicago and two in L.A. — are to be announced Tuesday at a news event in New York hosted by the cracker brand and Urban Farming, a Detroit-based nonprofit.

The announcement comes about a year after Triscuit and Urban Farming joined forces to create 50 community gardens in 20 spots around the U.S. from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C.

Triscuit, which is a brand of Northfield, Ill.-based Kraft Foods Inc., and Urban Farming plan to announce Tuesday that they're going to replant the 50 gardens from last year, create the five in Chicago and Los Angeles and develop 10 other urban farming projects in Cincinnati, Detroit, Minneapolis and Tampa, Fla.

The announcement is to be made at New York City's Madison Square Park.

Residents in cities across the United States are increasingly turning empty, often-blighted land into gardens and farms. Urban Farming has been part of that push in its home city of Detroit since 2005, when it put its first gardens in the ground.

The group and Triscuit say the community gardens will give neighborhood residents access to more nutritious and healthier foods, which is consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's mission to create more sustainable and diverse communities.

A HUD official is scheduled to be on hand for the event.

"We want to inspire Americans across the country to join the home farming movement," said Jim Low, director of marketing for Triscuit.

Low wouldn't say how much money Kraft was devoting to the effort, citing a company policy not to disclose details of spending on such projects. But he did say Kraft has helped to create a website to promote home gardens, and Triscuit is including cards with basil or dill seeds in 8 million packages of its crackers to encourage shoppers to grow at home.

Taja Sevelle, executive director and founder of Urban Farming, said the group

SEE **GARDENS** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Ever hear of ear plugs?

Editor:

Dear John Petros,

While I appreciate your lamenting about the helicopter noise, the majority of Santa Monica residents have been coddled and spoiled ("Helicopters disrupt peace and quiet," Letters to the Editor, April 7, page 4). I have worked in Santa Monica for the past 10 years and have felt protected by the overhead noise knowing well that things are being monitored and that I am protected.

Come to Marina del Rey! We have the helicopters hovering 24/7 and they even shine the GPS heat searching lights through our sky lights at all hours. Do we mind? No, because when we previously lived in Venice, it was that same helicopter vigilance that saved us from a killer in our backyard who had scaled a tree after maliciously stabbing a neighbor. Consider yourself lucky for the vigilance and put in ear plugs. Be thankful that you are protected and stop whining (or move).

Mary M.
Marina del Rey

Airport ripe for development

Editor:

While Mr. Dacon is busy badmouthing a former vice chair of the Airport Commission to the imaginary "many, many Santa Monicans who support the airport" that exist in his fantasy world ("What about the freeways?" Letters to the Editor, April 2-3, page 4), he should consider a few relevant developments.

The airport agreement with the FAA will expire in 2015, at which time City Hall will consider the property's fate. Today, the airport contributes not a dime to the city, and in fact costs its residents considerable sums on those occasions when revenues cannot cover its costs. It is a city-owned facility that serves a tiny minority, and imposes large burdens on residents.

Before long the city will be considering whether a loud, polluting airport hosting hundreds of heavy jet takeoffs and landings every day (and contributing nothing to the city's coffers) is the best and highest use for that property.

With developers knocking down doors to get into Santa Monica, is there any doubt that sharks are already circling, looking for opportunity? The airport property is a ripe fruit, ready to be picked, and the market — and city residents and their interests — will ultimately determine the airport's fate, not Mr. Dacon and his friends. Airport business interests have gotten up on their hind legs and are generating some heat. Nonetheless, the real question now is when will the airport close, and what will be done with the property afterwards.

Dan Jansenson
Santa Monica



Your column here

Knapp

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What happened to gloomy predictions?

ECONOMIC REPORTS SHOW THAT MOST job growth in our country this year has come from small- and medium-size businesses. That trend will only accelerate, according to the recently released Small Business Index from the Center for Excellence in Service at the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business.

Nearly 3.8 million new jobs will be created by small businesses with fewer than 100 employees in 2011, says the report. That will be enough alone to lower the U.S. unemployment rate by 2.4 percent. The survey, conducted in January, also found that only 2 percent of small businesses planned to lay off workers.

Major health insurance companies nationwide are reporting dramatic increases in small businesses offering health insurance to employees. This reverses a trend for small businesses dropping insurance because of affordability.

This is not what opponents of health-care reform told us would happen if Congress passed the Affordable Care Act (ACA). They warned us strenuously before the ACA became law March 23 of last year that small businesses would not only stop hiring out of fear of the future but would begin laying off workers because of anticipated new taxes, fees and health-insurance mandates under the ACA. Small businesses also were supposed to start dropping health insurance because the ACA would drive up premiums. These dire predictions continued right up until last year's November elections.

Fortunately, the gloom and doomers were wrong. Those of us who supported the ACA have tried valiantly to put out more realistic predictions about how the ACA was going to help small businesses. There will not be new taxes, fees or health-insurance mandates for small businesses with 50 or fewer employees (approximately 96 percent of all businesses). However, most of the mainstream media preferred to report on the negative tea-reading.

But now the good news for small business is rolling in and the positive future effect of the now 1-year-old ACA is becoming clear.

More than four million U.S. small businesses with fewer than 25 employees are eligible to receive health-insurance tax credits under the ACA. That's 87.3 percent of all small businesses in the country that the ACA can help by making health insurance more affordable.

As for the ACA dramatically increasing the cost of health insurance, a senior vice president at Harvard Pilgrim says that the federal law has only increased premiums by 1 percent.

The ACA is helping small-business owners who have been locked out of health insurance because of their own pre-existing condition. Right now, these entrepreneurs are eligible for affordable coverage from new high-risk pools established under the ACA.

This year, the ACA is requiring that at least 80 percent of every premium dollar being paid in small group health insurance plans is actually paying for medical costs — not marketing, CEO salaries or profit. If not, the policyholder is owed a refund.

These benefits for small business are in place now.

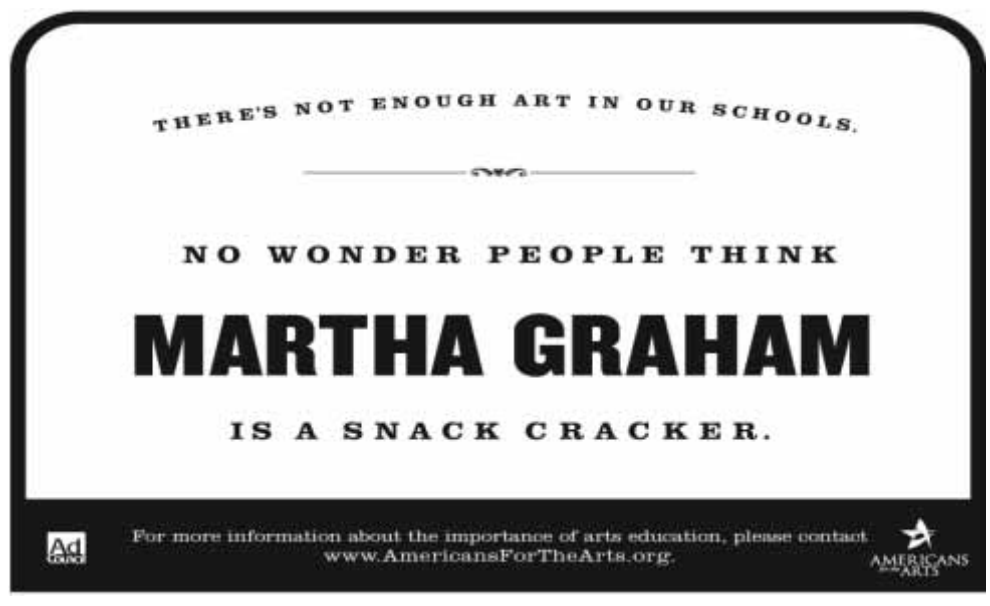
Today, small businesses are paying as much as 18 percent higher premiums than big businesses. This is a result of higher administration costs for small groups. In 2014, this extra cost is eliminated, so small-business employees, along with individuals, will be able to purchase their coverage from the new health insurance exchanges in each state.

A small business with only one employee with a pre-existing condition finds itself priced out of the market or paying highly inflated premiums. In 2014, health insurance companies will no longer be allowed to charge higher rates because of pre-existing conditions.

And because no one will be denied health insurance because of a pre-existing condition, aspiring entrepreneurs will no longer be locked into a job because of health-insurance benefits. As a result, ranks of small businesses should expand.

The one year anniversary of the ACA is truly something small businesses should celebrate for what it has already done. The future will be even better.

KNAPP is president and CEO of The South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce and serves on the steering committee for the American Sustainable Business Council.



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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Thanks for the memories

SOME DAYS I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT to write. This column can be a difficult project to write on a weekly basis, but I've been doing it for I think almost nine years now. Some of my columns are sheer genius, and others are utter crap. I know that.

Coming up with new ideas every week is not always an easy thing to do. I've written about significant federal issues and some inconsequential local issues that annoy just me. I've written about my family, my love life (and sometimes my lack of one), my divorce and family law practice, and my dog. I've addressed small town politics and global geopolitical issues. I've attacked religions, politics, racism, bigotry and NIMBYism.

I've been blessed with three excellent editors, and over the years we've worked together to shape the column and tailor it to be more in line with both my writing style, and the needs of the community, for the purpose of a paper is to serve its community.

When this column started it was a very dry, legal information column. That didn't last long. It has since grown in both size and scope. As I've stretched in my writing skills, it has expanded to accommodate me. I've learned that the more open I am as a person about what is happening in my life, where I've come from, and the truth of my world, the more interested people are in my writing. The more I reveal about who I am, the bigger and better response I receive.

People come up to me in the grocery store, or stop by my table in a restaurant and tell me how much a particular column meant to them. Sometimes it is because I've shared some personal drama and they relate, or other times, they stop to say they appreciate my putting into words what they were thinking.

I've always loved the newspaper business, from the time that I took journalism in high school to learning how an offset press works, which I did at University High School. I have no illusions that I am a journalist. I am a columnist who writes about my opinions and experiences — it's all very subjective.

Journalists on the other hand are objective and they are a vital part of our society. They act as the "guards who guard the guards" and it is their purpose to go beyond what a government official is saying and to get to the heart of the matter. Reporters and editors investigate and disclose to the world what is really going on behind the closed doors of government, and industry.

As an editor on my high school newspaper it was my job to come up with ideas for new stories and do the layout. I loved the layout days. This was in the olden days when you used X-Acto knives, and paste, and had to physically create a page.

Story sessions were always chaotic periods, either because there were too many stories of great importance to the mind of a teenager who was itching to write about the scandal that was occurring on the girls' volleyball team, or worse, deadly silence because we were all tapped out on new ideas to write about and deadlines were looming.

I can only imagine how hard it must be for the editors and writers of a daily to come up with enough new stories to fill the pages of a paper six days a week. But I can tell you that I am very grateful for this paper and the hard work of the staff , day in and day out.

My column has over the years received many comments. Most of them are positive, and a few of them have been downright funny in their vitriol and hatred (those were mostly the Mormons by the way). I am blessed to have a soapbox from which to spout off. I have learned many things along the way, I have stumbled across sacred cows at times, and at others found that what I think is important, no one else cares about.

I wanted to take today's column, to say thank you to Carolyn Sackariason who gave me a shot years ago when I first pitched my idea for a column, to Michael Tittinger who kept me on a clear path with my writing, and to Kevin Herrera who has helped me become more local and focus on the community at large. They have all helped me grow as a writer, and more importantly as a person. And finally to Ross Furukawa, the publisher, the man who keeps the lights on, and the computers clicking, thank you for the hard work, long hours and dedication to a local outlet for news.

I look forward to another nine years of writing, of working with the awesome newspeople of the Santa Monica Daily Press, of occasionally tweaking the nose of some government official, and sharing my thoughts and my life with the community at large.

Thank you.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's Issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

The Q Line

Show a little hospitality

Saint John's is requesting a modification to its development agreement so that it will not have to build a new parking garage at the hospital. Residents have complained about hospital employees and visitors taking up all of the street parking, as well as raw sewage spills.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
How can Saint John's be a better neighbor?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102**.



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STATE BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

Agency approves $21K ethics fine against Villaraigosa

California's political watchdog agency has approved a $21,000 fine against Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa for failing to report free tickets to more than two dozen sports and entertainment events.

The state Fair Political Practices Commission approved the ethics fine on Monday. The city ethics commission will consider another fine of the same amount during its Tuesday meeting.

The Democratic mayor has acknowledged failing to report the free tickets for events that included the Grammys, the finals of "American Idol" and Los Angeles Lakers games.

Villaraigosa says the violations were unintentional and that he did not consider the tickets gifts because he attended the events in his official capacity as mayor.

The commission also fined former Lt. Gov. Abel Maldonado $28,000 for failing to quickly report late campaign contributions.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Police: Rare comic taken from Nic Cage resurfaces

A rare and valuable comic featuring the debut of Superman that re-surfaced in a storage locker last week appears to be the same one stolen from Nicolas Cage more than a decade ago, police said.

The mint copy of Action Comics No. 1 is now in police custody and an investigation into its theft and recovery is under way. Detective Don Hrycyk with the Los Angeles Police Department's Art Theft Detail said Monday the comic has been authenticated and appears to be the one stolen from Cage in 2000.

It is unclear whether the 1938 comic will be returned to the Oscar-winning actor. Hrycyk said Cage accepted an insurance payout after its theft and will have to work out the details with the company.

Cage is an avid comic collector, and the Action Comics issue is one of the highest-coveted books in superhero history. A copy of the issue was sold in March 2010 for $1.5 million. It was originally sold for 10 cents.

The recovery of Cage's comic was first reported Sunday by the Ventura County Star. The paper said it was found in a storage locker in the San Fernando Valley last week and that a comic collector who originally sold the book to Cage verified its authenticity.

Hrycyk said his investigation is in its early stages and he is checking out all the stories about how the comic was found.

The detective said a number of false leads on the comic have been generated over the years, including a tip in 2002 that the issue was in a safe deposit box in Tennessee. Police searched the box, but found a replica of the comic's cover, which depicts Superman hoisting a car over his head, wrapped around a woman's lingerie catalog.

An e-mail message sent to Cage's publicist, Annett Wolf, was not immediately returned Monday.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Gunfight triggers evacuation, search

Los Angeles police say a gunfight at a North Hollywood apartment triggered an evacuation and door-to-door search but none of the men was found.

Capt. Justin Eisenberg told KTTV Fox 11 that Sunday's 10 p.m. gunfight involved multiple people shooting at each other. He says one of those believed involved was found later at a nearby hospital being treated for a gunshot wound to the leg.

Several apartments were evacuated during the search on Oxnard Street just west of Laurel Canyon Boulevard.

Eisenberg says detectives will take over the investigation.

AP

LOS ANGELES

6 hurt in apartment complex fire

A fire in an apartment complex above a South Los Angeles church has injured six people, one critically.

City News Service says the fire was reported shortly before 1:30 a.m. Monday in a stairwell in the second-floor apartment complex above the New Life Christian Church.

The fire was quickly doused. A 54-year-old man was hospitalized in critical condition.

Fire spokesman Brian Humphrey says three other adults and two children were either treated at the scene for smoke inhalation or declined treatment.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

AP

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Civil Litigation
Consumer and Business Disputes

CONSENT
FROM PAGE 3

responsive."

The extra $27,120.60 covers a 10 percent contingency budget.

Woodlawn's upgrades are only the second largest expenditure of a series totaling $1,648,245.24 on tonight's consent calendar.

SPRUCING UP THE PLACE

The council is expected to sign off on improvements to City Hall worth $531,300 as part of a federally-funded seismic retrofit project.

According to a staff report, the Federal Emergency Management Agency gave City Hall funding to bring the building up to code after the 1994 earthquake. While those offices are being upgraded, staff will be moved to the former Information Systems Department space.

In addition, Human Resources and City Clerk departments need more room for their staff, which has outgrown the current office space. This project includes improvements to those two offices as well as work to expand them into space that used to belong to the Revenue Division.

City staff recommended California Averland Construction, Inc., which was the lowest of nine bids.

LOVE A MAN IN UNIFORM

Aramark Uniform Services will receive a seven-year, $525,000 contract for uniform and floor mat services if the City Council gives the OK tonight.

City staff also recommends that the council approve a $15,000 contract extension to cover the next two months of services, bringing the total expected cost for the 2010-11 fiscal year to be $75,000.

The company was chosen in June 2010 to provide uniform, floor mat and laundering services to all other city departments, and was asked to extend those services to cover the Big Blue Bus system as well.

BEEFING UP SECURITY

Staff recommended a $200,000 increase in a contract to provide security for the Big Blue Bus system while officials search for a company to replace the current provider.

The BBB is currently in the process of selecting a new on-site security firm, but needs to retain the current provider, U.S. Security Inc., until the end of June 2011.

According to the staff report, the advertisement posted by city staff drew 40 bids from private security companies by Feb. 20, 2011, which made it difficult to choose a new company quickly.

The cost of extending the contract is $200,000, bringing the grand total to $671,903. Staff expects to bring the new contract to the council by April 26.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Two firms which both specialize in analyzing historic resources are expected to get a bump in their respective contracts totaling $70,000.

Staff requested a $20,000 increase in City Hall's contract with Jones and Stokes Associates, an international firm with a Los Angeles-based office, for a total of $90,000 over the course of one and a half years for its work evaluating properties' eligibility for the designations of structure of merit, landmark or historic district.

A second firm, Santa Monica-based PCR Services Corp., is up for a $50,000 contract increase to total $157,950 for a three year contract.

That company analyzes proposed alterations to landmark structures and other buildings considered to be historic resources. It also analyzes eligibility for the titles of landmark, structure of merit or historic district, similar to Jones and Stokes.

In both cases, the firms were chosen from a list of eight qualifying companies.

BURN, BABY, BURN

The Santa Monica Fire Department requested an additional $8,622.24 to add turnout timers to a system that lets firefighters keep track of their response times.

The turnout timers will let firefighters see the actual time it takes for them to leave the station for each call, from the moment the call comes in to the minute they're en route to the incident.

ashley@smdp.com

ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 3

poll.

The Mariners are 7-5-2 this season and an impressive 4-0 in Camino Real League play. Next for St. Monica is a home league game against Mary Star of the Sea, today at 6 p.m.

SAMOHI BASEBALL OPENS LEAGUE

Samohi's baseball team opens Ocean League play today with a road tilt with Hawthorne. The game begins at 3:15 p.m.

The Vikings have struggled to a 3-13 record this season with coaches hoping that things pick up during league play. Samohi shared the league title last season with rival Culver City.

ST. MONICA HOSTS B-BALL FUNDRAISER

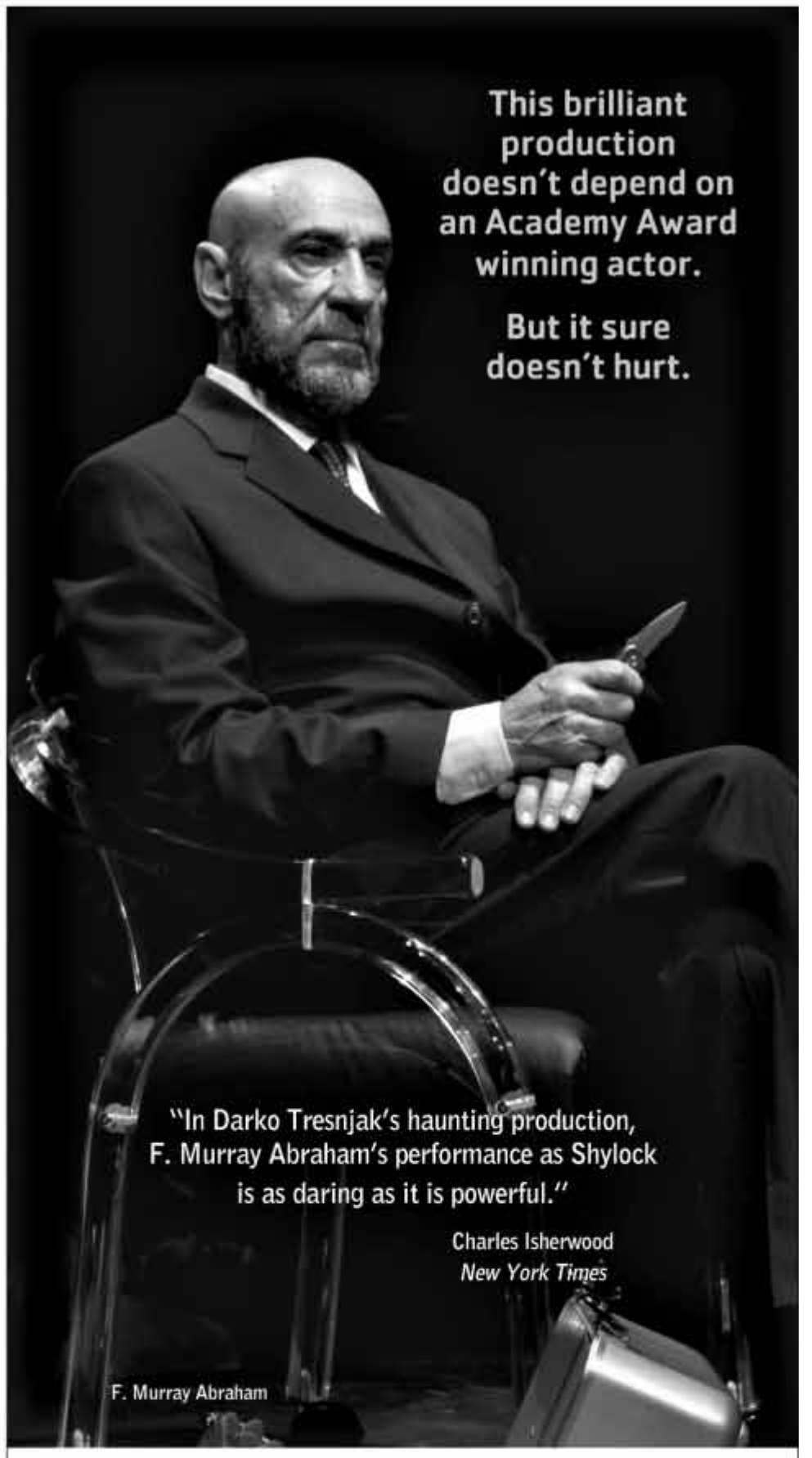
St. Monica's boys' basketball coach Khi-Min Jung is hosting a hoops clinic this Sunday with all proceeds going to the relief effort in Japan.

The clinic will teach kids 5 and up the finer points of basketball and costs $20 a person. It will be held on the St. Monica campus and begins Sunday at 4 p.m.

daniela@smdp.com

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BLAST
FROM PAGE 1

in Denver and may have deviated from his original route. Hirsch is believed to have family in New York, Trisler said. The bus was supposed to arrive in New York on Sunday.

Police originally believed the explosion, which rocked the Chabad House and neighboring buildings on Thursday, April 7, was caused by a strange mechanical failure underground, but a lengthy, forensic post-blast investigation determined the explosion was the result of a bomb. Investigators said items found in and around the crime scene are linked to Hirsch, who is said to have frequented area synagogues and Jewish community centers seeking handouts.

Hirsch constructed the projectile device using elements including concrete, explosive powder, dry ice and what appears to be an expansion joint sealant, or other expanding plastic or foam.

The oddly constructed mechanical launcher appears to have been highly effective at hurling its material, although it did not seriously damage the Chabad House which appears to have been its target.

Hirsch is currently being sought on state charges of possession of a destructive device and unrelated local charges, Trisler said.

Federal investigators are also interested in questioning Hirsch.

Hirsch is considered extremely dangerous. Anyone with information on his whereabouts are urged to contact law enforcement. The FBI can be reached 24 hours a day in Los Angeles at 888 CANT-HIDE.

Police do not have a motive for the attack at this time. Local police are working with the FBI, ATF, the LAPD and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Reward money is available in exchange for information leading to a conviction in connection with the crime.

kevinh@smdp.com



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GARDENS
FROM PAGE 3

hopes to encourage everyday Americans to take up farming — no matter the scale.

"They can start learning to grow their own food, if you just have a terrace or a window sill, or you just want to put something on your countertop in the kitchen," Sevelle said. "If you don't have land, you still can garden."





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OCEAN PARK

FROM PAGE 1

checking, and monitoring," Dyke said. "If it hadn't had a marked effect on safety, it wouldn't be here anymore. We saw a serious reduction in accidents."

The timeline of the project is also a source of frustration to residents and business people. For many, it was unclear until the road was re-paved in 2010 with the reconfigurations striped onto the new pavement that the "pilot project" had ended.

It wasn't even made official within City Hall until an information item appeared on the smgov.net website on March 1, 2011 proclaiming the changes permanent.

As to the slower travel, City Hall won't get any argument from businesses on Ocean Park Boulevard.

Sam Srebnick, a manager at The Slice, a pizzeria on the road, had mixed feelings about the project.

"I'm torn, because I like the bike lanes, but I do deliveries, too," Srebnick said. "Around 5 p.m., when it's all backed up, it can take 30 minutes to get to 23rd Street."

Now, nearly three years since the changes took place, he can barely remember what it was like not to get off of Ocean Park Boulevard and take parallel streets like Ashland Avenue or Pearl Street.

Liz Seiji remembers.

Seiji bought the Edelweiss Flower Boutique 25 years ago, when the Sunset Park neighborhood was the "quiet part" of Santa Monica.

It's difficult to get to work in the morning, and more difficult to leave at night when it's bumper-to-bumper starting at 4 p.m., Seiji said. In the summertime, with the additional beach traffic, it's nigh on impossible.

"I tried to get in my input, but they didn't really care," Seiji said.

The traffic backs up as far west as Lincoln Boulevard, turning a quick commute into a 10 or 15 minute ordeal, said Dari Silverman, owner of She's the One, a children's fashion store.

Silverman and other Ocean Park Boulevard business owners got notice at their businesses several years ago that the changes would be taking place, but not at her home, which is further down on Ocean Park past Lincoln.

"They go all out for tourists, but we are the people who live here," Silverman said.

Not all are inherently against the project, said Zina Josephs, a representative of Friends of Sunset Park neighborhood Group.

"Some residents in the neighborhood are frustrated with the increase in traffic congestion, but others are pleased with what they feel are safer conditions for drivers and pedestrians, especially school students," Josephs said.

Residents have expressed discomfort with how quietly the reconfiguration went from "wait and see" to permanent policy, she said.

The matter never went before the City Council, or on any agenda, because no action was required to leave things as they were, Dyke said.

"To keep it the way it is, the City Council doesn't have to do anything. In general, those decisions, like re-striping, are really technical decisions that could be made by an engineer," she said.

ashley@smdp.com

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Santa Monica City Council at the Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 10, 2011 for patrons of the Big Blue Bus.

The hearing will be held as an agendized part of the City Council meeting, which starts at 6:45 p.m.
The City Council will consider proposals to change the following Big Blue Bus services:
•Route 2: discontinue service south of Main St. at Hill St.
•Route 1: operate select trips along an extend route from Windward Circle eastbound to Walgrove Ave. along current Route 2 route
•Route 7: decrease weekday frequency midday from every 10 minutes to every 15 minutes
•Rapid 7: increase frequency to 8 minutes during peak hours and to every 15 minutes other times until 6p.m.; add service every 30 minutes from 6-10p.m.; add stops on Pico @ Stewart St./28th St. and at Avenue of the Stars; delete a stop on Pico @ S. Beverly Dr.; extend route to Metro Purple Line Subway Station on Wilshire Blvd. @ Western Ave.
•Route 10: convert to a Rapid service by removing stops that are less than 0.20 of a mile from another stop and have low usage
•Route 13: decrease overall service to provide approximately 50% fewer trips
•Downtown Ride: add new weekday service between Civic Center and Santa Monica Blvd. from 7-10a.m. and 3:00-7:30p.m.

Details regarding all proposed service changes are available for viewing at www.BigBlueBus.com.
Anyone may comment in person at the hearing, or prior to the meeting by:
■ Submitting written comments to: Big Blue Bus, 1660 7th St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, Attn: Dan Dawson
■ Emailing comments to Bus-Info@BigBlueBus.com
For additional information, contact Dan Dawson, Customer Relations Manager, at (310) 458-1975 ext. 5831. City Hall is wheelchair accessible. Disability-related accommodation requests should be made at least 3 days prior to the hearing by calling (310) 458-1975 ext. 5831 or TTY (310) 395-6024, or email: Bus-Info@BigBlueBus. City Hall can be reached by riding Big Blue Bus Routes 4, 8, and 9.

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CONCORD
FROM PAGE 1

High School, formerly located on 19th Street and Wilshire Boulevard.

The suit accuses Packer-Davis-Hille, a former chair of the Santa Monica Rent Control Board who resigned from Concord in November, of using school funds to pay for her son's apartment in Westwood as well as maintenance to her home. This was on top of paying herself a "grossly inflated" salary of over $300,000 at a time when enrollment at the nonprofit high school was down considerably, according to the lawsuit.

"In sum, Packer-Davis treated [Concord] as her own personal piggy bank and looted [Concord] of hundreds of thousands of dollars," the complaint states.

Packer-Davis-Hille, her husband and son could not be reached for comment.

The Daily Press in January first uncovered the alleged mismanagement by Packer-Davis-Hille after parents informed the newspaper that the school filed for bankruptcy and was forced to cease operations before the close of the winter session, putting the future of roughly 50 students and their teachers in jeopardy ("Teachers, parents fight to save Concord High," Jan. 13, 2011, page 1).

Teachers from Concord International, with the help of parents, have since started a new school, Concord Prep, at the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club in an effort to provide some continuity for the students. It is unclear if the school will be able to continue after the summer.

Concord International was founded in 1973 by the late Sonya Packer, a UCLA educator and Packer-Davis-Hille's mother. It quickly forged a reputation as a rigorous academic institution that often sent graduates on to prestigious Ivy League universities. Students who may have had learning disabilities or problems with drugs and alcohol seemed to thrive at the school, which boasted small class sizes where teachers could give students more assistance.

Parents and teachers told the Daily Press that they could never have imagined that a school with a strong academic reputation and a legacy like Concord's would go under.

Teachers and parents last year began to notice enrollment was down from the typical class of 100 students to roughly 50, but they believed it was a symptom of the struggling economy and more parents turning to public schools. They said they had no idea Packer-Davis-Hille was paying herself what was in their minds an exorbitant salary.

According to tax records filed by Concord, Packer-Davis-Hille in 2007 was earning a salary of $288,000. During that time the school had a revenue stream of $1.6 million and expenses totaling $1.8 million. In 2009, Packer-Davis-Hille gave herself a raise, putting her salary at $308,000. The school had revenue totaling roughly $1.5 million, meaning Packer-Davis-Hille's salary alone was roughly 20 percent of the school's total revenue.

In comparison, recently-appointed LAUSD Superintendent John Deasy signed a contract for a base salary of $330,000 to manage the nation's second largest school district with a budget in the billions. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent Tim Cuneo had a base salary of $220,000 in 2009.

At New Roads, a private school on Olympic Boulevard, total revenue for 2009 was roughly $13 million and they paid their head of school a base salary of $248,682.

Tax records also showed that over three years, Packer-Davis-Hille spent close to $700,000 on undocumented expenses attributed to conferences, conventions and meetings.

The Daily Press obtained copies of canceled Concord High checks signed by Packer-Davis-Hille for parts of 2009-10 amounting to more than $22,000 to the Palazzo Westwood Village, a luxury apartment complex where her son was rumored to live, and $9,000 to the W Hotel.

According to the suit, Packer-Davis-Hille charged more than $380,000 to the school's credit card. It is unclear how much of that was for school-related expenses, but those close to the situation said the purchases were personal. A source told the Daily Press that Packer-Davis-Hille used Concord money to pay for her son's fees to practice law in California and lied on college recommendations for her two sons, saying they participated in extra-curricular activities that never existed at the school.

The suit also says she paid her husband $45,000 and her son $53,000 in 2009-10.

It wasn't until Packer-Davis-Hille left the school in November and the new board took over that they started asking questions about the school's finances. The previous board consisted only of Packer-Davis-Hille and her husband, and there was no formal parent-teacher association, said Richard Corlin, chair of the board for the now-defunct Concord whose son was a senior at the school when it was forced to file for bankruptcy.

Corlin and teachers who spoke with the Daily Press said they later learned that only a handful of students were paying full tuition while the majority were on scholarship, setting the school up for financial failure. They believe Packer-Davis-Hille planned to resign as soon as her youngest son graduated from Concord.

The landlord of the building the school was renting on Wilshire Boulevard filed court papers to evict the school, forcing the board to file for bankruptcy to stop the action at least until the end of the winter session.

Packer-Davis-Hille abruptly left, leaving the new board to sort things out. Immediately meetings were held with parents and faculty to devise a plan to keep the school open. Around $300,000 was needed to finish out the school year, Corlin said. Parents were able to raise roughly $60,000 to keep the school open until the end of the first semester.

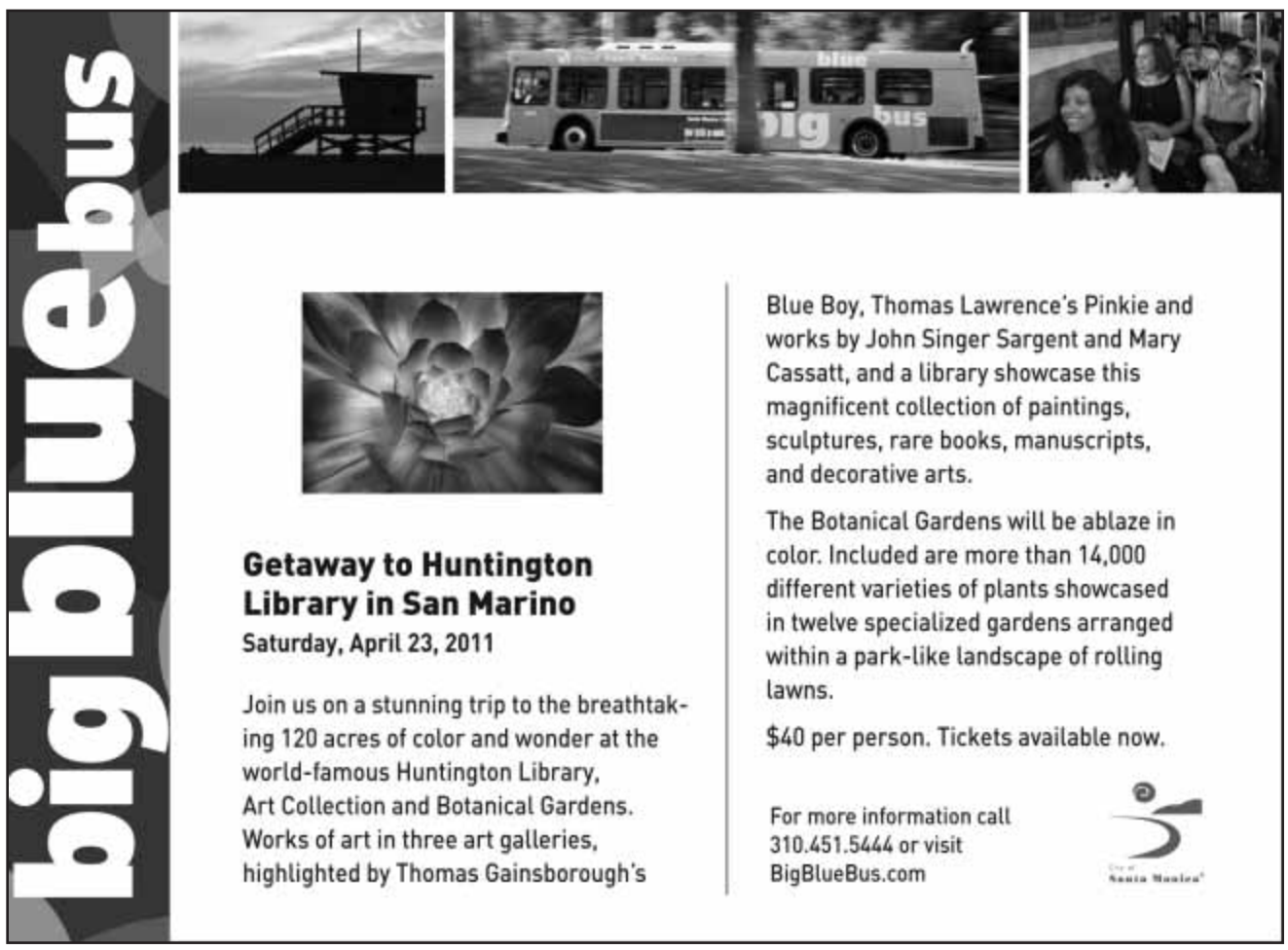
Now Concord International is essentially a school without walls, existing only to help parents in getting transcripts so their children can continue their education elsewhere. The school has agreed to issue diplomas to those seniors who complete similar curriculum either online or at another school.

kevinh@smdp.com











Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

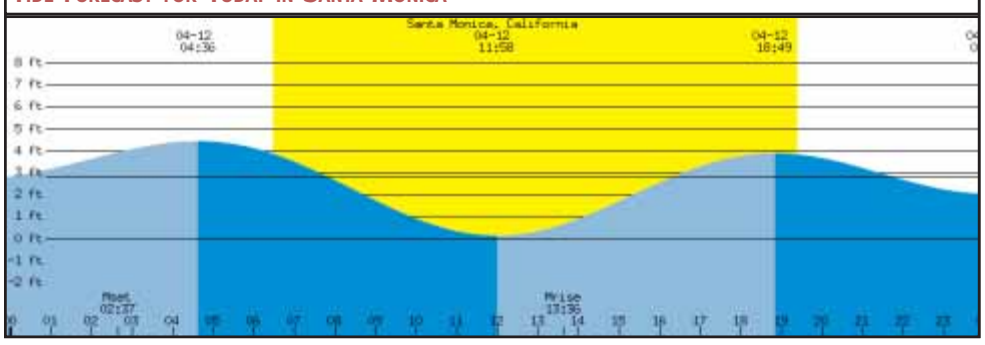
Swell Forecast

NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

NW is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **April 6, 2011**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 10
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34 / 12
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 32

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation
simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	F	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	F	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	F
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	F
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	F
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	C
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	B	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	F	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	C
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	B
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	C
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	C
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	D	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	C	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	C
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	C
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	C
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	C
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A+	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	B
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	C
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	F

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card℠ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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COLLEGE SPORTS

Athlete comes clean about coming out

NANCY ARMOUR
AP National Writer

YPSILANTI, Mich. Austin Hendrix thought he would be free once he got to college.

There would be no more hiding the fact he's gay, no more denying something that is as much a part of him as the color of his eyes. He could be himself, not the muted version he'd been presenting to the world, to his friends and his teammates in Eastern Michigan's track and cross-country programs.

That was the plan, anyway.

"I was new here. I didn't know anyone on the team, I didn't know anyone on the campus at all. So nobody knew that I was gay," said Hendrix, whose wiry frame immediately pegs him as a distance runner. "I had to make the decision on whether or not to confide in my teammates, coach, classmates, whatever, that I was gay and tell them my sexuality, or just keep it a secret.

"You want to fit in, you want to have your teammates' respect. And a lot of people are ashamed to come out because they think their teammates will think less of them."

For Hendrix, his choice of school ratcheted up the stakes. Eastern Michigan is a Mid-American Conference powerhouse in running, with 34 titles in track and another 15 in cross country. It has produced two Olympic gold medalists. The last thing Hendrix wanted was to cause tension or awkwardness in the locker room, or turn teammates against each other.

Or turn them all against him.

That nightmare scenario would be even worse in distance running, the purest, most primal of sports. There are no scrimmages or fancy drills during base training, just mileage — lots of it. Hendrix and his teammates spend one, sometimes two hours a day running through the neighborhoods and parks around Eastern Michigan, nothing to break up the monotony of their workouts besides sharing bits and pieces of their lives.

So Hendrix stepped back into the closet.

Only now it felt more like a prison.

He would remain trapped there for two long years, until his courage overcame his fear — and he discovered there'd been no reason to hide.

"You can't say that you can just forget about your sexuality. It's who you are. You're attracted to certain people," Hendrix said. "My first two years here, I thought about 'How can I come out? When should I come out?'

"Honestly, my thoughts were consumed by hiding my sexuality."

Hendrix is hardly the first athlete to face such a quandary. What makes him unusual is his willingness to talk about it.

For all of the progress gays and lesbians have made in America, from the legalization of gay marriage in five states and the District of Columbia to the repeal of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy in December, the sports world both here and abroad remains firmly closeted. Not because there are no gay or lesbian athletes, but because of the unwritten prohibition on talking about sexual orientation in sports.

The few high-profile out athletes have mostly been women such as Martina Navratilova in tennis, Sheryl Swoopes in the WNBA and Rosie Jones of the LPGA. Europe has seven nations where gay marriage is legal, but just two big-name male athletes who have come out: Gareth Thomas, the former Wales rugby captain, in 2009, and English cricket player Steve Davies, who announced in February that he is gay.

There has yet to be an openly gay player in Major League Baseball, the NBA or NFL, and only a few have spoken publicly about their sexuality after retiring.

"You're supposed to fit this model — if you're a gay male, you're (considered) feminine, you can't be athletic," Hendrix said. "You start thinking, 'Maybe I'm the only one. I don't have anyone to look up to, maybe there's something wrong with me.' It does make it difficult. And you're surrounded by all straight men or women so you don't have anyone to really go to or confide in.

"It would just really help to know you're not alone. I think that's what it comes down to."

Hendrix, now 21 and a fourth-year junior at Eastern Michigan, has been an athlete as far back as he can remember. He comes from a soccer family, and began playing when he was in kindergarten. He took up cross country in middle school because his friends were doing it, and realized after running track his freshman year in high school that he was pretty good.

He began coming out his junior year of high school by telling his friends, and word eventually reached his mother. Their conversation was teary but loving. Finding the words to tell his father was even more difficult and, after talking it over with his mom, Hendrix settled for a letter.

Though accepting of him, his parents were fearful of how their community would treat their only son. Their hometown of Sylvania, Ohio, is small, less than 20,000 people, and word of mouth travels fast.

"The reality is, anybody who thinks an out or gay athlete, even a very talented one at the high school level, has an equal chance of getting a scholarship at the right school or has an equal chance of getting drafted as a straight athlete are still kidding themselves," said John Amaechi, who came out after five years in the NBA with Cleveland, Orlando and Utah. "There are some people who will overlook it. But there are still some owners who are stale, male and pale, and for them, the idea of women being in the locker room is terrifying, let alone a gay person on their team."

Fear of such attitudes convinced Hendrix to stay silent, and he buried himself in his classes and running. But he learned quickly that a half-truth is just another word for a lie.

Hendrix didn't know a day without fearing someone had found out or was about to. His running suffered and his body did, too, with an uncharacteristic string of injuries. Frustration and disappointment turned inward, gnawing away until Hendrix acknowledged the real problem.

"I got fed up with lying and hiding," he said.

No matter the reaction, it had to be better than pretending.

Two years ago, as he and his best friend on the team talked about accepting people despite their differences, Hendrix finally shared his secret. Though surprised, the teammate said it didn't change anything. That unconditional support gave Hendrix the courage to tell a few other teammates. And then a few more until the whole squad knew.

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
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Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 6:35pm, 9:15pm

Paul (R) 1hr 40min
2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13) 1hr 56min
1:10pm, 4:05pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Insidious (PG-13) 1hr 42min
2:05pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Sucker Punch (R) 2hrs 00min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:05pm

Hop (PG) 1hr 30min
11:25am, 2:00pm, 4:35pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

Adjustment Bureau (PG-13) 1hr 46min
12:10pm, 2:45pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:35pm

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (PG) 1hr 36min
11:05am, 1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Hanna (PG-13) 1hr 51min
10:55am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Source Code (PG-13) 1hr 34min
10:30am, 12:40pm, 2:55pm, 5:15pm, 7:40pm, 10:10pm

Soul Surfer (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:40am, 2:25pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Certified Copy (Copie conforme) (NR) 1hr 46min
1:30pm, 7:00pm

Of Gods and Men (Des hommes et des dieux) (R) 2hrs 00min
3:00pm, 8:00pm

Trophy Wife (Potiche) (R) 1hr 43min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Win Win (R) 1hr 46min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Super (NR) 1hr 36min
4:10pm, 9:40pm

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
1:00pm, 5:50pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Your Highness (R) 1hr 42min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Limitless (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:10am, 1:55pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Jane Eyre (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm

No eres tu, soy yo (PG-13) 1hr 45min
12:00pm, 2:35pm, 5:10pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:25pm, 10:15pm

Arthur (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Time to socialize, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Defer. It makes others feel confident that you trust them. That thought might or might not be true. Let others think what they so choose. A friend could be surprisingly difficult or touchy. Tonight: Schedule some one-on-one talk time.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Complete what you must. A boss or an older person might not be aware of how demanding a request might be. Develop better communication between you and this person. Start sharing. An unpredictable friend is just that -- unpredictable! Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Your creativity adds to your ability to accomplish projects. Someone might see you as a solution-finder. Communication or a sense of direction leads you to a new option. Tonight: Could be late.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Stay centered, and understand what others want as opposed to what you might think they need. You have a decision to make. Remain sensitive to the individual and tuck judgment away. Your perception simply might not be appreciated. Tonight: Let fun in; let your inner child out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Make that extra effort to connect with others. A wave and a "hi" can elevate someone's mood and change his or her day. A close associate or someone you have money dealings with could be unpredictable. Strap on your seat belt. Tonight: Happy to get home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Take a hint from Leo. Be aware of how much needs to be accomplished. Look to the end results. Determine what must be done first. Let others play devil's advocate; in fact, encourage just that. Sometimes you don't see the complete story or you miss a detail. Tonight: Hang out with a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Others often find you to be a great source of ideas. Handle all the people and inquiries. The question remains: What is essential for you to complete? A shortcut won't work. Add perspective and humor into a personal situation. Tonight: Your treat.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ If you can work from home, do. You might get a lot more done. Nevertheless, a flirtation or a child has the capacity to toss your plans in the air. You actually might be a touch uncomfortable if this happens. Screen distractions! Tonight: Smiling broadly -- finally. Time to socialize.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Meetings might point the way. You might be taken aback by a premonition. You might be startled by how right-on you could be. The unexpected tends to jolt you back into the here and now. Take your time responding. Tonight: A little mystery goes a long way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You assume your normal role. Investing too much -- be it money, hours or an innate gift -- into a project could be a mistake. Use care with transportation and communication. An element of surprise runs through this area of your life. Tonight: Find your friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Look for the passage you have not seen. Decide where you might be holding yourself back. Open yourself up to a risk. What you aspire to or want is great; now make it happen. You pull the wild card financially. Tonight: Catching up on everything that you didn't do.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ A partnership, though perhaps not acknowledged, could be instrumental in moving forward. Travel and education could be some of the paths to the end. Try not to declare that something is impossible or untenable. By doing this, you are making sure it is. Tonight: Break out of the box in your thinking.

Happy birthday

This year, you often choose to pull back and take the high road. Experiences will open you up to many different perceptions. You gain compassion and acceptance. Travel could play a significant role. Many of you will go back to school and seek more specialization. If you are single, someone quite different could strut into your life any day. This friendship could be a real eye-opener. If you are attached, the two of you will experience greater closeness as you open up to new outlooks. Schedule a special vacation together. SCORPIO can push your buttons.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

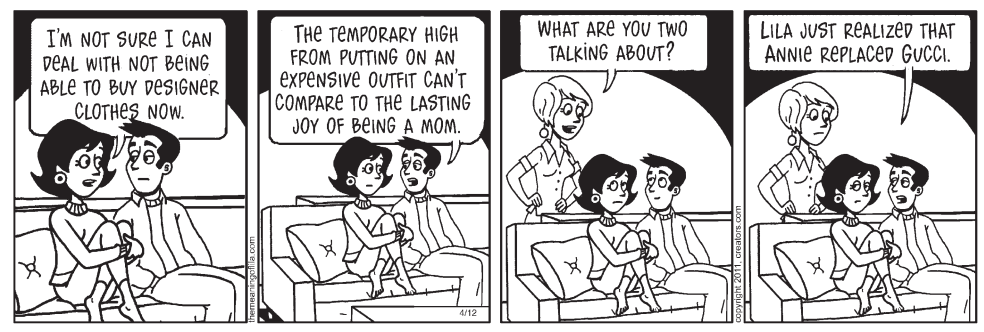
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



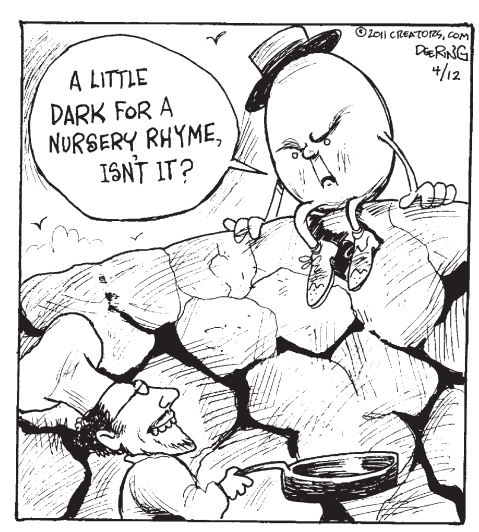
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★

		1		3		9		
	3		2		5		4	
6								8
	2		3		9		5	
3								1
	5		1		6		8	
9								2
	6		4		1		7	
		8		2		3		

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

7	4	5	2	3	6	9	1	8
9	1	2	7	5	8	6	4	3
8	3	6	4	9	1	7	5	2
6	2	7	5	8	4	3	9	1
4	5	9	3	1	2	8	7	6
1	8	3	6	7	9	5	2	4
2	7	8	1	6	5	4	3	9
3	6	4	9	2	7	1	8	5
5	9	1	8	4	3	2	6	7



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Reciprocal
7 Ready for picking
11 Willing to consider
12 Heaps
13 Mexican revolutionary
15 Easy gaits
16 Hive group
18 Quill points
21 Lairs
22 Succeeded after a struggle
24 Antique
25 Bread spread
26 Old roadster
27 Trance
29 Extinct bird
30 Whirl
31 Muscle quality
32 Morley of CBS
34 Don Quixote's squire
40 Lotion additive
41 Area
42 Ties the knot
43 Autocrat

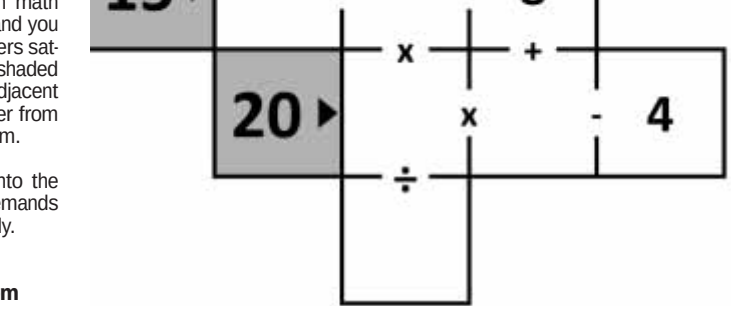
DOWN

1 Custodian's tool
2 — tree (cornered)
3 Wallet bill
4 Dad's brothers
5 One of the Musketeers
6 Velcro feature
7 Granola bit
8 Under the weather
9 Campaigner, for short
10 Greek vowel
14 Malice
16 Pants accessories
17 Finish
19 Chemical element
20 Soft leather
21 Uno doubled
22 Kids' card game
23 Also
25 He was swallowed by a great fish
28 Fishy sign
29 Headcovering scarves
31 Plains abode
33 Nixon's successor
34 Carpentry tool
35 Saloon brew
36 Silent OK
37 Tiny taste
38 Menagerie
39 Termite's cousin

C	A	R	D	S	■	A	T	H	O	S	
A	P	A	R	T	■	N	A	I	V	E	
T	E	N	O	R	■	A	U	D	E	N	
■	■	■	P	A	T	H	■	E	N	D	
S	T	E	A	D	I	E	D	■	■	■	
P	I	T	H	■	S	I	R	E	N	S	
A	N	N	I	E	■	M	O	R	A	L	
S	T	A	N	D	S	■	P	I	P	E	
■	■	■	T	W	O	F	A	C	E	D	
G	A	S	■	A	W	O	L	■	■	■	
A	L	T	A	R	■	G	I	L	D	A	
S	T	A	I	D	■	U	N	I	O	N	
P	O	N	D	S	■	P	E	T	T	Y	

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



1-25

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- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

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Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 12

Solution for Task 239

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Fantasy 5: 6 13 16 28 36

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 5 8 — EVENING: 3 6 1

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 07 Eureka! 2nd: 03 Hot Shot 3rd: 11 Money Bags — RACE TIME: 1:40.96

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The CIA recently won two court rulings allowing the agency to refuse comment about its former contractor Dennis Montgomery -- rulings that issues involving him are "state secrets" (despite strong evidence that the main "secret" is merely how foolish the agency, and the U.S. Air Force, were to pay Montgomery at least $20 million for bogus software following 9-11, according to a February New York Times report). Montgomery, a small-time gambler who said he was once abducted by aliens, convinced the two agencies that his sophisticated software could detect secret al-Qaida messages embedded in video pixels on Al Jazeera's news website. According to the Times report, Montgomery has not been charged with wrongdoing and is not likely to be, since the agencies do not want their gullibility publicized.

■ For about a year, the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has been facilitating Mexico's increasingly bloody drug wars by turning a blind eye to U.S. gun sales to the cartels -- even though those very guns account for some civilian deaths as well as the December fatal shooting of a U.S. Border Patrol agent. According to the senior ATF agent who supplied evidence to CBS News, neither the Mexican government nor many U.S. officials were aware of the program (called "Fast and Furious") until mid-March. ATF allowed the sales so it could track the guns' locations, to facilitate, at some future date, bringing indictments against drug traffickers.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1927 April 12 Incident: Chiang Kai-shek orders the Communist Party of China members executed in Shanghai, ending the First United Front.

1934 The strongest surface wind gust in the world at 231 mph, is measured on the summit of Mount Washington, New Hampshire.

WORD UP!

balderdash \BAWL-der-dash\ , noun;
1. Senseless, stupid, or exaggerated talk or writing; nonsense.
2. (Archaic:) A muddled mixture of liquors.

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Obituaries

Nancy Ellen Jenny Hawley

Nancy Ellen Jenny Hawley was born on January 22, 1949 to Leonard and Julene Jenny. In her childhood years she resided in Santa Monica, California in the house that her father built on 26th Street with her mother, Julene Jenny, father Leonard Jenny, older brother Ronald Jenny and younger sister Patricia Jenny Crooks. Nancy attended Santa Monica City schools; Grant Elementary, John Adams Junior High and graduated from Santa Monica High School in 1967. She was very active in the Job's Daughters, Bethel 228 Ocean Park, CA and obtained the highest degree, Honored Queen, in 1965. After high school, Nancy did many different things. She went to beauty school to be a beautician, attended Santa Monica College and was working to achieve a degree in early childhood development. Nancy loved working with children. She worked in the Santa Monica schools for many years. As an adult, Nancy lived in Southern California, in or around Los Angeles. Nancy became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in 1983 and met Kevin Bowman. They were married in 1984 and were together for 12 years. On December 11, 1987, Nancy was blessed with her beautiful daughter, Jennifer Lee Bowman. Jennifer is now 23 years old and has been a devoted daughter to her mother, Nancy. On September 12, 1998, Nancy married RJ "Skip" Hawley. They were married for over 12 years. In 1998, Nancy was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer called adenoid cystic carcinoma. After major surgery to remove the original tumor, this cancer remained in remission for over 10 years. Nancy fought a long, hard battle, but eventually, this cancer took her life on April 7, 2011, at the age of 62. Nancy was a wonderful wife, daughter, mother, sister, aunt and friend. She is survived by her husband, Skip Hawley; daughter, Jennifer Bowman; mother, Julene (Sanford) Gladstein; brother, Ronald (Jane) Jenny; sister, Patty (Bill) Crooks; aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews, and many cherished friends. She will be greatly missed by all. Midgley Gardenside Mortuary is assisting the family. (800) 795-0028

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Notices

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type, B license, on the following: Bid #10.40.BB-03-113674, Entry and Office Reconfiguration. All bids must be filed in the SMMUSD Purchasing Office, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, California 90404 on or before Wednesday 05/11/11 at 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. All bidders must attend the Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site on Thursday, 04/21/11 at 10:00 AM. All bidders must be prequalified prior to submittal of bids. Please contact Sheere at BBprojectinfo@smmusd.org , for prequalification requirements, contract documents and bid information .

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20110474590 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 03/30/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as AI#ON 20072750002 ANGELENO HOMES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: GREEN BUILDING REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT L.P 1223 WILSHIRE BLVD #212 SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. This Business is being conducted by: a Limited Parntership. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:GREEN BUILDING REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT L.P ; PRESIDENT . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 03/30/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious

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business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 04/04/2011, 04/11/2011, 04/18/2011, 04/25/2011.

Miller Honda
CULVER CITY

06 HONDA CIVIC
900525/010549
$14995

04 HONDA ACCORD EXL
480568A/038936
$15865

08 HONDA CIVIC LX
900501/514166
$16995

08 HONDA CIVIC CERTIFIED
900529/536436
$16995

10 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA PRIOR RENTAL
R900514/078385
$16995

09 NISSAN ALTIMA PRIOR RENTAL
R900509/481313
$16995

08 HONDA ACCORD LX
480630A/045404
$17995

800-614-3020

Miller Toyota
CULVER CITY

06 TOYOTA COROLLA CE
306092A/083831
$10999

07 TOYOTA COROLLA CE CERTIFIED
306525A/898793
$12998

07 TOYOTA COROLLA S
1000782/769228
$13999

04 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER
1000806/091203
$14900

08 TOYOTA CAMRY LE
1000701/196808
$14989

07 TOYOTA CAMRY XLE
CERTIFIED
1000690/700074
$14998

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Santa Monica, CA

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336 7th Street
2 Bed, 2 Bath
$1,299,000
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2226 6th Street # A
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath + Loft
$1,199,000
Open Sunday
April 10th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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401 California Ave. # 7
3 Bed, 2.75 Bath
$1,279,000
Easy to Show!
Call for Private Showing

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2310 31st Street
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$795,000
Open Sunday
April 10th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Vintage Vibe w/ Modern Updates!



948 16th Street # A
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$ 699,000
Open Sunday
April 10th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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1520 16th Street #101
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath + Loft
$825,000
Easy to Show!
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	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,100,000	$2,850,000
North of Montana	$2,862,500	$1,369,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$2,400,000	$799,000
South of Wilshire	$699,000	$499,000
Sunset Park	$998,000	$625,000
Ocean Park	$1,224,500	$1,048,000
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Open Sunday!



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$1,595,000
Open Sunday
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Ocean Park Plaza
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$1,629,000
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